ARGUMENTS/REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

The drawings were objected to for lacking formal drawings.

Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9, 13, and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kroeker et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,073,232 (hereinafter "Kroeker") in view of Stewart U.S. Patent No. 6,539,456 (hereinafter "Stewart") and further in view of Esfahani et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,434,695 (hereinafter "Esfahani").

Summary of Applicant's Amendments

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 13 solely to expedite prosecution.

Applicants have amended claims 4, 5, and 15 in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as the invention.

Applicants have cancelled claim 9 solely to expedite prosecution.

Applicants have added new claims 18-39 in order to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicant regards as the invention.

Applicants reserve the right to claim any subject matter lost by the above amendments in a divisional or continuation application.

Applicant's Reply to the Drawing Objection

The drawings were objected to for lacking formal drawings. The Examiner stated that when "the application is allowed, applicant will be required to submit new formal drawings" (Office Action, page 2). Applicant will file formal drawings when the application is allowed.

Applicant's Reply to the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

The Examiner stated that:

"Kroeker and Stewart do not disclose ... accessing compressed boot data and decompressing the compressed boot data. However, Esfahani ... [discusses] loading a compressed boot data into a RAM cache and then the boot data is decompressed and executed."
(Office Action, page 5).

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended solely to expedite prosecution. Claims 1 and 13 include decompressing the compressed boot data at a rate that effectively increases the data access rate of the cache.

None of the prior art, used either alone or in combination, shows or suggests a decompression process that is able to effectively increases the data access rate of

the cache. The mere discussion of decompression in no way suggests decompression operable to effectively increase the data access rate of the cache.

For at least the above reasons, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's rejection of claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), and any claims dependent therefrom, be withdrawn.

New Claims 18-25

As shown above, claim 1 is patentable. Claims 18-25 depend from claim 1. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 18-25 are patentable because claims 18-25 depend from claim 1.

New Claims 26-29

As shown above, claim 13 is patentable. Claims 26-29 depend from claim 13. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 26-29 are patentable because claims 26-29 depend from claim 13.
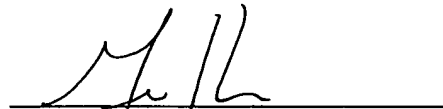
New Claims 30-34 and 35-39

New claims 30 and 35 include a data compression engine for compressing additional boot data stored to a boot device and decompressing compressed boot data retrieved from the cache.

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None of the prior art, used either alone or in combination, shows or suggests a data compression engine for compressing additional boot data stored to a boot device and decompressing compressed boot data retrieved from the cache. Claims 31-34 and 36-39 are patentable because claims 31-34 and 36-39 depend from patentable claims 30 and 35, respectively.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that this application, including the pending claims, is in condition for allowance. A favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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[X] Submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.34
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